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REFLECTIONS

NEWS OF INTEREST FROM REDEEMER COLLEGE, ANCASTER, ONTARIO L9G 3N6

VOL.8, NO.4 JUNE 1989

Graduation - A Celebration

Right(top to bottom): Denise Bezuyen and Ross Taylor celebrate. Doug Hoogsteen rejoices. Rev. De Bolster congratulates Tina Boks, the first student to complete a degree program at Redeemer College through part-time studies. Cyndi Dykstra.

New Awards Recognize Scholastic Achievement

Sharon Timmerman and Ruth Ann Dykstra were the recipients of this year's awards of highest scholastic achievement at the Graduation Ceremonies held on May 27th.

Sharon Timmerman received the Silver Governor General's Medal, which is awarded to the student who graduates with the highest academic standing at his or her institution. Sharon graduated with a general degree in French and a mathematics minor with a GPA of 10.98 out of 12.

Sharon will enter teacher's college at Brock University this fall.

This is the first year Redeemer College has been empowered to grant the medal, struck in 1873 to reward academic achievement at the secondary school, community college, and university level, both undergraduate and graduate. The silver medal is for universities offering Bachelor's degrees.

Ruth Ann Dykstra is the recipient of the faculty award which is also new this year.

The award, in the form of a certificate, was granted to Ruth Ann for a demonstrated combination of academic excellence, active participation in university life, and Christian leadership.

During her four years at Redeemer, Ruth Ann from Clinton, Ontario, was the manager of *Connections*, Redeemer College's touring music ministry group, a faculty assistant to Dr. Bert Polman, a private music lesson instructor, and a member of the Volleyball and Soccer teams. She was selected as the volleyball team's most valuable player. Ruth Ann also was a member and president of the choir, and on the cast of two plays.

Academically, Ruth Ann graduated with a general degree in music and a minor in English with a GPA of 9.9 out of 12. She hopes to pursue a Master's degree in music education for young children.

Alumna accepted at Oxford

Sylvia Keesmaat-DeJong, alumna and member of the first graduating class, will be attending Oxford University, London, England to pursue a Ph.D. in New Testament studies. Mrs. DeJong completed her Bachelor of Christian Studies in 1986 at Redeemer College, and received an M.A. from McMaster University this year. While at McMaster, Mrs. DeJong studied with visiting professor, Dr. J. N. Wright, who encouraged her to apply to Oxford. She will be pursuing her Ph.D. under his guidance. ➔

Skillen Speaks at Convocation

Public speaker and lecturer, Dr. James Skillen, was the Convocation speaker

(continued overleaf)

REFLECTIONS

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at Redeemer College's fourth graduation ceremony held at the end of May. Dr. Skillen, who is the Executive Director of the Association for Public Justice in Washington, D.C., addressed 39 graduates and guests in the afternoon ceremony on the 27th.

A leading figure in development of a Christian perspective on public policy in the United States, Dr. Skillen holds a Ph.D. in political science from Duke University, and has taught at Messiah, Gordon and Dordt Colleges in the United States. He took his current position in 1981 as a representative of the Christian public interest group in Washington. He is a well-known scholar and practitioner in the field of political science and political theory, and the author or editor of four books.

LETTERS

I am writing regarding the March '89 issue of Reflections.

Regarding the article, "Where have all the Graduates Gone", I would like to mention the small percentage of Redeemer students - myself, Winnefred Wiebenga '88, Wilma Jonkman '87, and Rita Vanderschaaf '87, who received their B.Ed. degrees from Brock University after graduating from Redeemer.

I would love to see this percentage of Redeemer's alumni also included among the graduates in the article.

Angela Boers (Van Luyk) '86

Regarding this article, those who graduated and pursued B.Ed. degrees from Brock University were not excluded, but were mentioned in a category which read, "32 have completed the teacher's education program through Calvin and are working as teachers".

The records from which the information was obtained did not show at which universities our graduates subsequently studied. Sorry about the assumption. It was a mistake. Neither did the document indicate that one of our students, Beth Ann Bakker, is studying medicine at the University of Ottawa.

This also is a significant achievement. We at Redeemer are proud of our graduates and wish only to laud their accomplishments.

COMING EVENTS

July 3-21 - Summer courses on location in Kingston and the Redeemer College campus.

July 24-25 Royal Canadian College of Organists Finals to be held at Redeemer College. Recitals are open to the public.

Aug. 18-19 - Summer Leadership Camp for senior high school students.

Aug. 18-19 - Volleyball camp for senior high school students. Information available from Ms. Jane Devos-Kors.

Sept. 9 - Eighth annual Convocation and Membership Meeting at Redeemer College. Time will be announced.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In many ways university life is very much identical to life in general. At Redeemer College we experience our ups and downs. One day we are extremely happy because good things happen and long worked-on projects fall in place, and on another day we are frustrated and disappointed because there are problems which cannot be easily solved. That is life, is it not? For that reason we are so aware of our dependence on the Lord. That is a good thing both in life in general and at Redeemer College.

One of the main frustrations this year was the continuing rise of interest rates. Also here we want to thank our support community for helping us and for coming to our aid whenever we asked. Please accept our sincere thanks for everything you have again done for Redeemer College this past year.

Graduation Ceremonies

On May 27th we witnessed the graduation of another 39 students who have successfully completed their studies. We want to congratulate them most heartily, and wish them God's blessing as they continue their studies or enter the workforce.

Teacher Education

A remarkable development is the decision by the Board to establish a complete elementary education program at Redeemer. Presently our students who become teachers in the elementary Christian school system receive all but one year of their education at Redeemer College. The remaining year is taken in a combined Redeemer College/ Calvin College program. Our student teachers spend September to February at Calvin College and 10 weeks practice teaching in order to obtain their Michigan Teacher's Certificate. Beginning in 1990, students will be able to take this final year entirely at Redeemer.

A tremendous shortage of teachers is developing, not only in the public schools but also in the Christian schools. We would like to train as many teachers as possible in Canada for our Canadian schools and with a Christian perspective.
We have therefore hired another professor, Mr. John Stronks, who will start in 1990 and together with Dr. John Vriend will develop the elementary education program. Mr. Stronks is very experienced. He has been in education all his life and is well-known to many of you. He has been a teacher and principal for many years and is presently Elementary Curriculum Director for the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools.

We are looking forward to having our entire elementary education program at Redeemer College.

We want to acknowledge God's nearness during this successful academic year. He led and blessed us, and we counted on His forgiveness for mistakes we made. We praise Him for the joy and blessings. I wish you all a blessed and safe summer.

Henry R. De Bolster

NEWS BRIEFS

Leadership Training for Senior High Students

Redeemer College Student Life Department is offering a special leadership training camp on August 18th and 19th this summer at the Redeemer College campus. The camp is designed for grade 11, 12, and OAC students to provide them with an opportunity to improve their leadership skills and prepare them for university experiences in a Christian university environment.

"This camp is not just for students who intend to come to Redeemer College," assures Cor Kors, Dean of Students. "It is for all senior high students. It is meant to enhance their leadership skills so that they will be equipped with self-awareness and the ability to lead peer groups."

Sessions will include planned interaction experiences. Accommodations and meals will be provided. The participation fee is $95.00 per person, and will include T-shirts, resource material and miscellaneous perks. Enrollment will be restricted to 14 females and 14 males, and early registration is encouraged. Additional information is available through the Student Life Office at Redeemer College.

Wolters Recognized as Full Professor

In an inaugural ceremony on March 10th, Dr. Al Wolters, professor of religion and theology, was recognized as a full professor. The focus of the ceremony was an academic address by Dr. Wolters on the interpretation of the Biblical text 2 Peter 1:4, and the problematic phrase "partakers of the divine nature".

Dr. Albert M. Wolters.

The exegetical approach Dr. Wolters took is unlike the Greek Orthodox concept which leads to man's deification. Such was not the intention of the text, Wolters maintained.

In a skillful and thorough exposition on the text, Wolters demonstrated that an alternative translation could, and should be 'partners of the Deity'. This, he pointed out, can be not only readily understood in a covenantal context, but would eliminate the misleading translation which lends itself to misinterpretation.

In attendance at the event were a number of senior members from ICS, and Dr. Clark Pinnock of McMaster Divinity College. Dr. Pinnock commented that Wolters exegesis of 2 Peter 1:4 was the most thorough and in depth analysis that he had encountered.

Also in attendance was Mr. Syrt Wolters from British Columbia, father of the professor and columnist for the *Calvinist Contact*.

The inaugural ceremony for full professorship is based on a traditional European model of recognizing a faculty member's qualifications, expertise, scholarship and service to the community, and requires a minimum of 12 years of teaching experience. The practice is one which has been adopted by only a small number of North American universities.

Tuition Increase

At its April meeting the Board of Governors approved the 1989-90 budget which includes a 10% rise in tuition fees for the coming academic year. Due to rising interest rates and operating costs, the Board approved the increase which closely approximates tuition increases at other independent universities and colleges in North America.

The 10% rise in fees is equivalent to $590 Canadian for the entire year, compared to Calvin's 9.9% increase which represents a rise of $610 U.S. The cost per course at Redeemer will therefore be up from $585 to $644, and residence fees will increase from $2,970 to $3,270 for the year.

Fees set by Student Senate to cover Senate costs such as athletic activities, student orientation, and recreation fees, will be $240.

Earlier this spring it was rumoured among the student body that tuition fees are being increased to offset disbursement of scholarship funds to Academic and Leadership Scholarship winners. The administration assured students that Redeemer College neither awarded nor funded these scholarships. They were awarded and funded soley by the Redeemer Foundation through outside funding sources.

Redeemer Receives Matching Grant

Under the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's (SSHRCC) matching grants programs for privately funded research, Redeemer College has received a matching grant of $15,122. The money has been allocated to the Pascal Centre to further research on the relationship of faith and science.

SSHRCC provides a program whereby Ontario universities can submit the total of their privately funded research for the preceeding year, and be eligible for up to 20% return. Redeemer College submitted the seventh largest privately funded research budget totalling over $435,000, all of which was accepted, and received the seventh largest grant provincially equivalent to 1.4% of the national total.

However, due to the large number of applications submitted to SSHRCC, funds were distributed on a pro-rated basis. Rather than receiving the full 20% for which Redeemer had been eligible, SSHRCC could only allocate

5%. Had this not been the case, Redeemer College would have been eligible to receive $87,000.

Student Places Third in Poetry Competition

Fourth Year Redeemer College student, Grace Sikma of Newcastle, Ontario placed third in this year's writing competition sponsored by the Christianity and Literature Association of the United States.

Grace Sikma's entry won the third place award in the poetry category from among submissions from students of Christian universities and colleges across North America. Her poem 'Apple Wars' will be published in the summer issue of The Christian Literary Magazine, an academic publication which services the Association's membership. She will also be awarded $25.00 and a winner's certificate.

Grace's poem is a narrative which describes a childhood experience and interpersonal relationships. It uses Biblical symbolism and explores the theme of childhood innocence and the encroachment of technology.

Grace, who is graduating this year with a major in English and a minor in Art, intends to pursue postgraduate work at Calvin College in Michigan toward a teaching certificate in English and Art.

A New Face for Connections

Now a group of seven with music professor Dr. Bert Polman as artistic director, the new *Connections* Music Ministry group is preparing itself for a heavy summer schedule of bookings throughout Ontario and into Quebec.

The group has a new look. The members of *Connections* this year are Carolyn Stronks, Michelle Herrewynen, Christy Koning, Faith Benschop, Bill Fledderus, Michael John Kooy, and Mike Hogeterp.

At the beginning of May, *Connections* together with 'Dr. Bert' escaped to the Presbyterian retreat centre, Crieff Hills near Guelph. There they discussed their approach to various aspects of the music ministry. "The purpose was for all of us to get to know each other and discuss how to witness for Christ and give our testimonies," says Bill Fledderus. "We tackled such questions as how to build up the body of Christ."

Connections performances began May 10th at the 'Spring Fling' banquet of the London District Christian High School. Throughout May and June, *Connections* are travelling to Ontario Christian high schools, and on Sundays will minister during worship services at various churches.

During July and August, the group will perform at churches as well as Christian camps, and is looking forward to a trip to the Seafarers Mission in Montreal. Their biggest event to date will be a performance at Fairhavens Campground at Muskoka on August 5th to a crowd of approximately 800.

Further information on performances scheduled for *Connections* is available from Marian den Boer in the Department of Community Relations.

Redeemer Sports Victories

Hockey

Men's hockey was a great success this year. The team took first place overall in the Niagara Christian Hockey League, and won all games of the playoff series. In the final game, the team defeated Burlington 8-4 in front of a capacity crowd of over half the student body. It was an exciting and tense game that the crowd thoroughly enjoyed.

Under the coaching of Randy Haveman and Curtis Tuninga, the team enjoyed a season of 20 wins to three losses. Steve DeBoer received an award as the most valuable and most sportsmanlike player. Awards were also presented to Carl Miedema and Keith Verburg for best goal keepers.

Next year the victorious team will face increased challenges as they enter into full-contact competition and play exhibition games with OCAA teams and teams in the U.S.A.

Volleyball

The Women's Royals Volleyball team coached by Jane DeVos-Kors experienced a relatively successful year. The team finished in second place and took a silver medal in their OCAA division championship finals which were held at Redeemer College earlier this year. Grace Sikma and Betty Dykerman were nominated to the Ontario All-star team.

Also, this year saw the beginning of the Junior Varsity team coached by Wilma VanSpronsen. The team played throughout the year against various Bible Colleges and Christian High Schools. "It was a real learning experience," says Mrs. VanSpronsen.

Varsity players will have the option to continue on the team during the next season, or to try out for the Women's Royals OCAA team.

Julia Jaspers-Fayer and Ruth Ann Dykstra, MVP for Varsity Women's Volleyball 1989.

Foundation Scholarships

Thirty-four out of 55 applicants were awarded the Redeemer Foundation Academic and Leadership Scholarships following interviews held with candidates.

Twenty-four Leadership Scholarships at $5,000 each were awarded to students who demonstrated Christian commitment and leadership qualities, and ten Academic Achievement Scholarships equivalent to the cost of first-year tuition were distributed to those displaying academic excellence.

The Redeemer Foundation developed the scholarship program to encourage young Canadian scholars who desire a Christian university education, to remain in Canada rather than to go south of the border or out of the province to pursue their studies.

Academic Achievement Scholarship Winners

Brenda Brouwer, Hamilton
Susanne Bylsma, Kingston
Jeremy Cooper, Dundas
Erin Cornelisse, Kingston
David Kruisselbrink, Chatham
Matthew Spencer, Nepean
Robert Vandebelt, Lambeth
Kenneth Vanderhorst, Strathroy
Bernard Westerveld, Dunnville
Susan Winter, Stoney Creek

Leadership Scholarship Winners

Derek Ambrose, Caledon
Petra Boersema, Ancaster
Elizabeth Boven, Seaforth
Paul Brink, London
Sonja Deelstra, Wyoming
Beth Ann Douma, Wellandport
Rachelanne Dudley, Dresdan
Geoffrey Duern, Winona
Tamara Gritter, St. Catharines
Paul Hogeterp, Gloucester
Gary Miedema, Alliston
Brent Power, Stoney Creek
Monica Rumph, Cambridge
Beverly Scholman, Grimsby
Kirsten Shaule, Sault Ste. Marie
Liesje Van Arragon, Atikokan
Stephen VanderStoep, Burlington
Dennis Van Staalduinen, Nepean
Elaina Vassilopoulos, Manotick
Betty Anne Walhout, Peterborough
Jody Werkema, Blyth
Melissa Witteveen, Brampton

A Critique:
Essays on Art and the Christian Imagination

by Calvin Seerveld
Institute for Christian Studies
Toronto, Ontario

Essays on Art and the Christian Imagination was published by Professor Mary-Leigh Morbey and senior art students at Redeemer.

This is an unusually good collection of student essays connected by a common theme, and expertly produced.

The uniting theme is this: what has the Christian imagination had to do with art in its history? The answer is demonstrated with tightly focused essays on specific artworks from Byzantine mosaics to the Waterloo Christian Reformed Church designed by Roland Jonker of F.J. Reinders and Associates. There is no speculative philosophy about what "the Christian imagination" might conceivably be. There is forthright presentation and deft analysis of what imaginative Christian artists have done.

A striking characteristic of these eight essays is their uninhibited directness and sharp attention to detail of primary artworks, as well as excellent use of the best secondary sources on each figure treated (Gothic architecture, Michelangelo's pietas, Rubens, Rembrandt, Rouault, and Mondrian). No pile-up of qualifications, just good description and selected, situating comment: these essays are accessible for beginners in art history, and provide a helpful, balanced reminder for those who are art educated.

The contributers did not blush to make insightful comments on their own. Willard Dykstra points out how Rembrandt converted Caravaggio's chiaroscuro into serving Rembrandt's own Reformation view of human nature (pp.40-41), and how the absence of the Church's laying out prescriptions for artwork (within which Rubens did have to work) freed Rembrandt for imaginative service (p. 44).

The essays are not only carefully related by consecutively numbered footnotes, but the later essay by Greg Linnell, for example, refers back to how Mondrian's artwork and perspective contrasts with Rouault's vision and with Michelangelo in the essay by Betty Broersma (pp. 63-65).

An awareness of some of the theoretical problems connected with using a "psychoanalytic method" versus a "cultural history" method in treating art also surfaces in Linnell's chapter (p. 63 n. 127), as it touches where we Christians are today as artists and public.

I think this collection is a model of what ought to be done at a Christian college. It is evidence of superb learning, and therefore of gifted teaching. Not only the parents but also the supporters of Redeemer College could well examine this spiral-bound booklet, learn from it, and be very glad.

Georges Rouault, Circus Trio, *c. 1924, Philips Collection, Washington.*

FACULTY UPDATE

Congratulations are in order to several faculty members:

To **Sandra Beckett** who was promoted by the Board of Governors this spring to Associate Professor of French. Also, Dr. Beckett's application to SSHRCC for a grant in connection with her sabbatical research has been accepted. She is the first faculty member whose proposal has been approved for funding under the General Research Program;

To **Hugh Cook** who was promoted by the Board of Governors to Professor of English;

To **John Byl** who has been accepted into the Ph.D. program at SUNY in Buffalo. He will be working toward his Ph.D. in Education.

David Koyzis's article, "Straight from Scripture", appeared in *Reformed Worship*, Number 11 (Spring '89). Also, his review of Robert McAfee Brown's, "Spirituality and Liberation" appeared in *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (Spring '89).

Dr. Koyzis's report, "Canadian Conservatives win second majority", appeared in the *Public Justice Report*, February '89, Association for Public Justice, Washington, D.C. Also, Dr. Koyzis's article, "A new Russian Revolution", appeared in the *Calvinist Contact*, February 10.

Mary Leigh Morbey and assistant Grace Sikma gave a sight and sound presentation entitled "Art as Adoration" at the Reformed Christian Business and Professional Association's Convention on March 6 in Burlington, Ontario.

In March, **John Vriend** with three education students, led a workshop for the OACS on "Conducting an Interview". During March he also addressed the Hamilton-Niagara Christian School Principals Association on "Physical and Sexual Abuse, the Christian Teacher, FACS, and the Christian Community".

In February Dr. Vriend served on a school evaluation team for the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools at Timothy Christian School in Rexdale, Ontario.

John Boersema led a workshop at the RCBPA Convention on March 7 entitled: "Financial Reporting in God's Kingdom". The seminar dealt with accounting in churches and schools.

Dr. Boersema's comments on an exposure draft on Corporate Income Taxes circulated by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, have been submitted to the Accounting Standards Committee for its consideration.

On April 7, **David Benner** conducted a half day professional development seminar for the Associated Gospel clergy at the Park Bible Church in Burlington. His topic was, "The Challenge of Pastoral Counselling". Also, Dr. Benner offered two Saturday morning seminars at the Trafalgar Baptist church in Oakville, one on "Nurturing the Inner Self" on April 15, and another on "Healing life's hurts" on February 25.

During February Dr. Benner was also invited to Northwestern College as the Ronald R. Nelson Scholar in Residence to give four lectures at the campus. The lectures focused on the relationship of psychology to the Christian faith with particular topics including the dynamics of self-control, current perspectives on eating disorders, the relationship of psychology and spirituality, and the role of the heart in psychology and Christian thought.

Earlier this year Dr. Benner was interviewed by the Dallas Morning News for an article on para- psychology, and by a class at Bob Jones University that was studying his book, *Psychotherapy and the Spiritual Quest*.

Dr. Benner also addressed Redeemer College's pre-seminary class on the topic, "The role of the Pastor in counselling".

Theodore Plantinga participated in a meeting of the Classis Hamilton CRC as a resource person in March. He also attended the Vrieze Philosophy conference at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois, where he presented a paper entitled, "Philosophy's place in the Reformed undergraduate curriculum". He represented Redeemer College in a panel discussion in which approaches to philosophy at various Christian colleges were discussed.

Dr. Plantinga's article, "Sylvia Fraser and her shadow self", appeared in the March 20 issue of *Christian Renewal*. The same issue also carried a reprint of his article "Both sides of the issue", originally published in 1982.

Jitse VanderMeer's article, "Hierarchy: towards a framework for the coherence of faith and science", appeared in the March/April issue of *Pro Rege*, a bimonthly publication from Dordt College. It is the first publication of the Pascal Centre.

Daniel Savage attended the annual conference of the Ontario College and University Library Association (OCULA) in Toronto in March. He has also been invited to serve on the Committee on Publications of the Canadian Library Association from 1989-1991.

Also, Mr. Savage's article, "Town and gown re-examination: the role of the small university library in the community", appeared in the *Canadian Library Journal*, Vol. 45, no. 5, Oct. 1988.

Faculty Promotions

The Board of Governors has granted tenure and reappointments to 11 members of the Redeemer College faculty. Tenure at Redeemer constitutes a continuing appointment or a five-year rolling appointment:

Tenure

John Boersema, Professor of Business;

Hugh Cook, Professor of English;

Wytse van Dijk, Professor of Physics and Mathematics;

Al Wolters, Professor of Religion and Theology.

Reappointments

Mary Leigh Morbey,
Assistant Professor of Art;

Jacob Ellens,
Assistant Professor of History;

Jane Koustas,
Assistant Professor of French;

David Koyzis,
Assistant Professor of Political Science;

Raymond Louter,
Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts and Communications;

Christiaan Teeuwsen,
Assistant Professor of Music;

Sandra Beckett,
Associate Professor of French.